FREE skin saver

JANUARY 2002

marie claire

HAIR SPECIAL
New cuts, styles & easy how-tos



Michelle Pfeiffer's new take on life

MEN CONFESS
WHAT MAKES A WOMAN IRRESISTIBLE?

YOUR HOROSCOPE
love, sex, $$$ in 2002

Tone your body in two weeks

10 TIPS FOR GREAT SEX

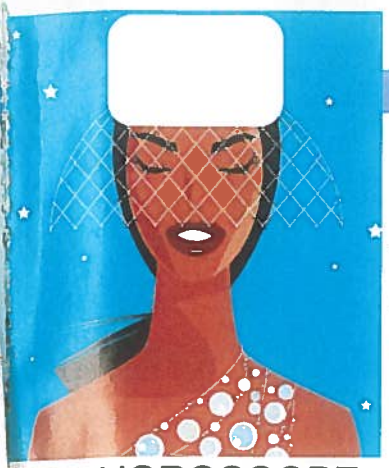
Boost your energy!

"They killed my husband because he looked Arab"

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR LOOKS

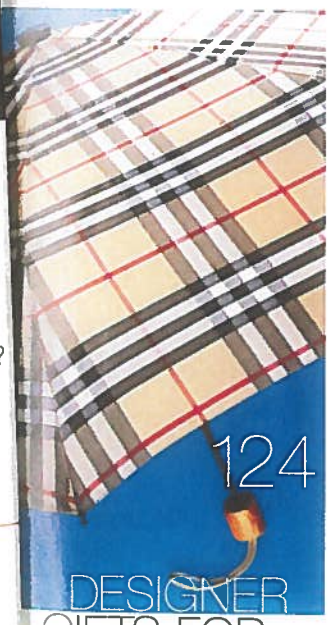
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WIN our cover look worth over $275

■ ***FASHION*** From Susana Monaco, tie-back dress, worth $108. Size Large.
■ ***MAKEUP*** From Maybelline, a year's supply, worth $118.05.
■ ***HAIR PRODUCTS*** From John Frieda, a year's supply worth $66. For products to be won, see Shopping Directory, p. 154.
■ ***COVER*** Photographed by Patrick Demarchelier. Editor: Lucy Sykes. Hair: Sally Hershberger for Sheer Blonde. Makeup: Brigitte Reiss-Andersen for Brigitte Reiss-Andersen Artists. Manicure: Kristi Jones for Orly/Cloutier. Earrings, Harry Winston.

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each of these men has a secret



BY BEN KAPLAN
PHOTOGRAPHED BY NICK CARDILLICCHIO



■ NICK, 34
"Tough, a real bad boy."

■ JESSE, 27
"Sweet, with a shy, boyish nervousness. Definitely cute."

■ PATRICK, 26
"Very guarded."

■ BILL, 28
"Smiley, charming, talkative."

How good are your first impressions? We challenged one brave woman to chat up these men for five minutes each to see if she could unearth the truth

ONE OF THESE MEN IS
■ A WOMAN ■ A STRIPPER ■ HOMELESS ■ A CLOWN ■ GAY ■ A MINISTER



OUR DETECTIVE

"I think I can pick out whether a person is genuine."

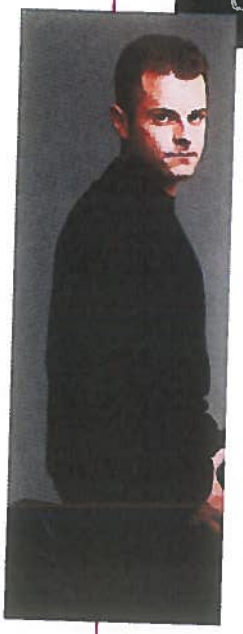
Jennifer O'Brien Marshall
28, financial analyst

For me, what makes a good first impression is a guy who's polite and humorous, and who looks like he's taken a shower. [*Laughs*] It's a turn-off when a guy is scruffy. He should look like he cares—no sneakers, a pressed shirt, shined shoes, no piercings. I like a little cologne, but he shouldn't smell like he's bathed in Drakkar Noir. Manners make the biggest impression—how a guy treats taxi drivers and waiters is how he'll eventually treat me. His speech is also key: If he drops the "F" word all the time, it's crass. He should be comfortable in his own skin, but still a little nervous—someone who might stammer. I don't want a slickster who sends flowers to a different girl every week.

JESSE'S SECRET?

HE'S HOMELESS

"Oh my God! Oh. My. God. Is he really?"



- **Her first impression:** "He was sweet, with porcelain skin and a shy, endearing, boyish nervousness. He didn't seem jaded; he asked questions about me, he didn't wait for me to lead. I wouldn't say he was hot—more like lukewarm—but definitely cute. He's someone I'd set up with my younger sister."
- **She guessed Jesse was:** a clown. "I didn't get any bad vibes from him, and he smiled the whole time. He was boyish."
- **After learning Jesse's secret:** "Oh my God! Oh. My. God. Is he really? He doesn't seem that way at all. I had him pegged for some kind of investment banker. He has probably seen and been through more than most of the other guys. Jesse just seemed sweet—actually, the sweetest of them all. I'd still set him up with my younger sister!"
- **He says:** "I knew she'd be surprised to find out I'm homeless, but she seemed sincere. I'd definitely go out with her, and I don't think—or at least I hope—that she wouldn't get too freaked out about my past. I'm homeless only because I went to Europe after college and sort of lost track of my money; by the time I got back to the States, I had nothing left at all, and no one to call. So I went to a homeless shelter."

BILL'S SECRET? HE'S GAY

"He was just too nice to be straight."



- **Her first impression:** "He was charming. There was a different vibe to our conversation than the others. He was very smiley and nice, talkative—the most talkative, but not overly intense. There was a common thread to our conversation, and he was open right away; we got deeper than I did with the others. But there wasn't an attraction, I don't think, on either of our parts."
- **She guessed Bill was:** gay. "I did get a great impression from him, but there was absolutely no chemistry going on."
- **After learning Bill's secret:** "He was just too nice to be straight. [*Laughs*] He spoke differently than the others, more easily. It felt less forced. Honestly, gay or straight doesn't surprise me. Everyone is everything nowadays."
- **He says:** "I don't think she was attracted to me. There was no full eye contact. I'm usually attracted to tall, Caucasian, metropolitan blondes—if she were a he, she'd be just my type!"

HAIR: SALLY BENEKE FOR RJ BENNETT. MAKEUP: NANCY SPRAGUE. PROP STYLIST: RICHARD OWINGS FOR DEFACTO



MARSHALL'S SECRET?

HE'S A MINISTER

"And I thought he was a stripper!"

- **Her first impression:** "He was [illegible] but not in a disgusting way—more laid-back, almost genteel. He was masculine, physically bigger than the others, and he seemed like a gentleman. He also seemed like a good and very mature."
- **She guessed Marshall was:** a stripper. "I could kind of see him in a nightclub."
- **After learning Marshall's secret:** "And I thought he was a stripper! It's not as if I felt like confessing my attraction to him, but I guess he did have a very placid gentleness about him."
- **He says:** "I like a woman with edge, and she's mainstream—absolutely traditional. Whether black, white, Asian, or Hispanic, I know this type. No surprises. Still, I'd go out with her."

PATRICK'S SECRET?

HE'S A WOMAN

"That's why he was so guarded!"



- **Her first impression:** "Serial killer. I felt least comfortable with him. He didn't say anything when he sat down, which I thought was rude. It seemed like he wasn't having any fun, like his mother made him do this. He was very guarded; maybe he didn't like me, but he said he was German, so maybe it's a cultural thing. Still, I wouldn't give him my number. If I met him in a bar, I'd probably leave."
- **She guessed Patrick was:** a woman. "It was totally women's intuition. He had a weak and sweaty-palmed handshake, and he just looked like a woman."
- **After learning Patrick's secret ["his" real name is Yvonne]:** "That's why he was so guarded! [*Laughs*] I thought it was because he was German! He was like *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* or *Boys Don't Cry*. I'm not surprised at all."
- **He says:** "When I said I was an actor, there was a little blink in her eyes, but mostly she seemed kind of freaked out . . . I don't think she knew, though. She's cute, but I'm a straight woman, a mom; I don't think I'm her type."

DAVID'S SECRET?

HE'S A CLOWN

"Are you serious? Like he does parties and stuff?"



- **Her first impression:** "He's very intense, and cerebral as hell. He began self-disclosing right away and almost seemed artsy-fartsy. Our talk was all about him, but not in a bad way. I liked him: He seemed interesting and very smart—even though he was short."
- **She guessed David was:** a minister. "He talked about starting a family right away."
- **After learning David's secret:** "Are you serious? Like he does parties and stuff? You have to give me his card! I'm hiring him for something."
- **He says:** "I don't see us in the same realm of attraction: I'm not some manly-man whose going to knock her socks off. She was charismatic and very pretty, but not the kind of girl I'd approach. I'm more into cute. Gorgeous girls just aren't interested in me."

NICK'S SECRET?

HE'S A STRIPPER

"I could still bring him home to Mom."



- **Her first impression:** "I liked him the most. I'd take him home to Mom, even though he seemed jaded, like 'so cool it hurts.' He was cocky and tough—definitely a bad boy, a player. He wasn't nervous, he was confident, the biggest flirt, and he opened up—he told me he's divorced, and I don't think that's a bad thing. He was just [*smiles*] more of an older man."
- **She guessed Nick was:** gay. "I mean, he had so many tattoos, anything was possible. And he was also really built."
- **After learning Nick's secret:** "You can still give him my number. I'd still bring him home. I think Mom would find him . . . interesting."
- **He says:** "She had that corporate grin. She's a sweet person, but I could tell who she was by the way she was dressed and her style. She smiled because that's just what you do when you meet a stranger. Typical." □